

FBI's Most Wanted List Not Bound to Only Ten

By TOM SEPPY
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI's list of most wanted fugitives has leveled off at 10, with more than half of them political revolutionaries, and there is no indication it will be expanded in the near future.

But there is no reason why it couldn't, should the need arise.

"We're not wedded to the number ten," said Jack E. Herington, the FBI spokesman. "We would like to keep it at 10. If it's necessary, we'll add names to the list."

The 23-year-old Ten Most Wanted Fugitives program first

went over 10 in 1961 when hatchet-killer Richard Markette was put on the list. He was arrested the following day. In late 1970, however, the FBI list reached a record high with 16 people, nine of them sought for such crimes as sabotage and terrorist acts.

The current list, which was reduced to 10 last summer, contains the names of seven so-called political revolutionaries. Herington said that the political fugitives have caused the problems because they may have fled the country to a sanctuary where the U.S. has no jurisdiction, such as Algeria.

Another problem, he said, is

that the political fugitive doesn't travel in the same circles as the traditional bank robber or murderer whose apprehension built the reputation of accomplishment for the FBI.

"They move in a different culture," he said. "The political fugitive does not move in the normal underground system. It makes it more difficult for us."

On Feb. 17, 1973, Karlton Lewis Armstrong, one of four men wanted in connection with a fatal bombing on the University of Wisconsin campus, was captured by Canadian police in Toronto.

Only one other person on the then-list of 12 was apprehended during the year—Byron J. Rice, who had been charged with the murder of an armored car guard. He surrendered to FBI agents in Chicago last Aug. 1.

There have been 317 persons put on the most wanted fugitive list since its inception in 1950 and 295 have been apprehended. Twelve others, including two last year, were taken off because they either were believed dead or the charges were dropped against them.

The "process dismissed" action is the only way a person's name can be removed from the list once it is put on.

Acting FBI director L. Patrick Gray III, and J. Edgar Hoover before him, decides what fugitives are placed on the Top Ten list after receiving recommendations from the field.

Hoover personally ordered the list to be expanded in 1961 and 1970 because he thought it was of utmost importance that the fugitives be caught.

Asked about the criticism that the FBI puts the name of fugitives they are about to capture on the list, Herington replied that the charge was ridiculous.

"There hasn't been a single case like that," he said. "We don't get any extra points for a top 10 fugitive. If we can catch a fugitive, we'll catch him."

He said there have been quick arrests because the program works.

"The method has been effective because we have apprehended fugitives after he has

been on the list for only 24 or 48 hours," he said. "But somebody may see his picture in the paper or on television and spot him on the street. That person will call the FBI and we are then able to move rapidly."

The newest addition to the Top Ten list is Mace Brown, a convicted hired assassin who participated in an escape from the District of Columbia Jail last fall. He was put on last Oct. 20.

Five men allegedly involved in the slaying of one police officer and the critical wounding of another in Nashville, Tenn., on

Jan. 16, 1968, was placed on the list on Feb. 9, 1968, and has been on the longest.

The others are Benjamin H. Paddock, who escaped from a federal prison in Texas while serving a 20-year sentence; Cameron D. Bishop, charged with sabotage in the dynamiting of Colorado power transmission towers;

Also, Dwight A. Armstrong, Leo Burt and David Pine, all wanted in the University of Wisconsin bombing; Bernardine Dohrn, a self-described revolutionary Communist and leader of the Weatherman; and Susan

E. Saxe and Katherine Ann Power, reputed members of a radical, revolutionary group dedicated to attacking the United States military system and undermining police powers.

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